## Message Text

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PAGE 01 PANAMA 01259 250231Z ACTION ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SAB-02 DEAE-00 /076 W

-----031936 251016Z/23

R 241600Z FEB 78 FM AMEMASSY PANAMA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5835 INFO PANCANAL USCINCSO

**UNCLAS PANAMA 1259** 

DEPT FOR ARA/PAF AND PAN

USCINCYO FOR J-2 AND PAO

PANCANAL FOR IO

E.O. 11652: NA TAGS: SOPN, PN

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTIONS

1-PANAMA CITY--FEB. 24 MORNINGERS GIVE LIMITED SPACZ AND NO EDITORIAL COMMENT TO SENATE TREATY DEBATE. PRO-GOP MATUTINO CARRIES PAGE ONE EFE ITEM, "CONSERVATIVE SENATORS RETURN TO WORK AFTER THEIR MORAL DEF EAT,"

AND ENGLISH STAR AND HERALD FRONT PAGES RICHARD PYLE AP STORY, "TREAT Y

OPPONENTS PESSIMISTIC; ALLEN:#65 TO 68 READY TO APPROVE."

2-FEB. 23 AFTERNOONER LA REPUBLICA EDITORIALIZES THAT OPPOSITION SENA TORS

SHOULD NOW SEE THAT PANAMANIAN CAUSE WILL TRIUMP: "THE CAREFULLY ESCALATED, SYNCHRONIZED AND WELL-PUBLICIZED FARCE (ACCUSATIONS OF GEN

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PAGE 02 PANAMA 01259 250231Z

59448'9' INVOLVEMENT IN DRUG TRAFFIC) DID NOT GIVE THE RESULTS ITS PROPONENTS WERE LOOKING FOR...THE VIGILANT ATTITUDE OF THE PANAMANIANS...SERVED AS A CLEAR WARNING TO ADVERSARIES OF THE PANAMANIAN CAUSE SO THEY KNEW THAT JUST BECAUSE PANAMANIANS MAINTAINED THEIR SERENITY AND PATIENCE, THIS DID NOT MEAN THEY WERE GOING TO ACCEPT THE HUMILIATING IMPOSITIONS THAT (OPPONENTS) TRIED TO INCLUDE IN THE TREATIES ALREADY

## APPROVED BY THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE."

3-LA REPUBLICA YPANISH AND ENGLISH CARRIES FRONT PAGE BANNER HEAD, "THOUSAND PARATROOPERS REINFORCE THE ZONE; SENT FROM FORT BRAGG." STORY INDICATES SPECIAL FORCES PARATROOPERS WERE OBSERVED ARRIVING AND WERE INTENDED TO BOLSTER US FORCES NOW IN ZONEMWIDNAH PROJ-GOP CRITICA MENTIONS STORY FEB 24, IN FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE FREE FORM USUAL HYSTRIONICS, "GRINGOS SAY THEY ARE NO ON ALERT."

4-CRITICA QUOTES SOUTHCOM PAO OFFICE AS SAYING PARATROOPERS ARE HERE FOR NORMAL TRAINING EXERCISE LASTING TWO-THREE WEEKS, AND WILL BE FOLLOWED BY ANOTHER SUCH GROUP, BUT THAT NO STATE OF ALERT NOW EXISTS IN ZONE AND PARATROOPERS ARE NOT MEANT AS REINFORCEMENTS. ITEM

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## Message Attributes

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**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AGREEMENTS, TROOP DEPLOYMENT, CANALS

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Subject: MEDIA REACTIONS 1-PANAMA CITY--FEB. 24 MORNINGERS GIVE LIMITED SPACZ AND NO EDITORIAL COMMENT TO SENATE

TREATY DEBATE. PRO-GOP MATUTINO TAGS: SOPN, PN, US
To: STATE PANCANAL MULTIPLE

Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/12c638d0-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc Review Markings:

Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released **US Department of State** EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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